



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/040,509 03/17/98 KATZ

R 233-134

EXAMINER

LM61/0805

LYON AND LYON
FIRST INTERSTATE WORLD CENTER
633 WEST FIFTH STREET SUITE 4700
LOS ANGELES CA 90071-2066

WOODS	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2743

DATE MAILED:

08/05/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/040,509

Applicant(s)
Katz

Examiner
Stella Woo

Group Art Unit
2743



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 29-40 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 29-40 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 3

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 2743

DETAILED ACTION

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 29-40 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 4,792,968 in view of the publication entitled "The AT&T Multi-Mode Voice Systems - Full Spectrum Solutions for Speech Processing Applications" (hereinafter "Hester").

Claims 1-12 of the U.S. patent recite essentially the same method recited in claims 29-40 of the present application except it does recite the use of DNIS for selecting a specific operating format. However, Hester teaches the well known use of DNIS for selecting a specific operating format from a plurality of formats and interacting with the caller according to the specified format such that it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill to incorporate the use of DNIS, as taught by Hester, within the method recited in the patent.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2743

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 29-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the publication entitled "The AT&T Multi-Mode Voice Systems - Full Spectrum Solutions for Speech Processing Applications" (hereinafter "Hester").

Regarding claims 29-31, 33-35, Hester discloses a process including the steps of:

receiving said call data signals (DNIS; page 3, second paragraph);

providing verbal prompts (via voice response unit; Fig. 1);

receiving data (via Touch-Tone input or recognized voice input; page 1, second paragraph; page 2, last paragraph; page 6, Application Example);

providing a data base computer (host computer with customer database; page 3, third paragraph) including verification means (note credit card verification, sales order entry, etc.; page 1, first paragraph).

Regarding claim 32, note attendant line interface (Fig. 1).

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2743

6. Claims 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hester in view of Barger, Jr. et al. (Barger).

Hester differs from claims 36-40 in that it does not specify defining a limit on use. However, Barger teaches the desirability of defining a limit on the number of uses by identified callers in an interactive voice-telephony system (col. 11, lines 34-47) such that it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill to incorporate the limited use feature, as taught by Barger, within the interactive voice-telephone system of Hester.

7. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

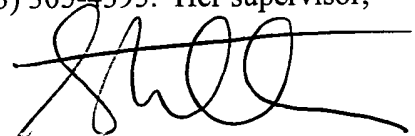
Or:

(703) 305-9508, (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stella Woo whose telephone number is (703) 305-4395. Her supervisor, Curt Kuntz, may be reached at (703) 305-4708.



STELLA WOO
PRIMARY EXAMINER